

## **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

### **RS23688**

The purpose of this legislation is to facilitate the development of autonomous driven vehicles and to provide for testing these vehicles on Idaho highways. Autonomous driver vehicles are computer-controlled cars. They are also called "robot cars" or "driverless cars". Along with the enormous technology challenge, State laws need to be changed to allow such vehicles on the road even for testing. Autonomous technology is in the research and developmental stage and it could have a significant economic impact with Idaho start-up tech companies. The next step is testing the autonomous car technology. Testing under actual highway conditions must first and foremost protect public safety.

### **FISCAL NOTE**

Approximately \$50,000 in Idaho Transportation Department staff time.

#### **Contact:**

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